

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Public Comments on Exceptional Events in the State of Arizona

In 2005, Congress identified a need to account for events that result in exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that are exceptional in nature (e.g., not expected to reoccur or caused by acts of nature beyond man-made controls.) In response, EPA promulgated the Exceptional Events Rule (EER) to address exceptional events in 40 CFR Parts 50 and 51 on March 22, 2007 (72 FR 13560). On May 10, 2013, EPA released interim guidance documents to State, tribal and local air agencies for review. These guidance documents clarify key provisions of the 2007 EER in response to questions and issues that have arisen since the rule was promulgated. The EER allows for states and tribes to “flag” air quality monitoring data as an exceptional event. If flagged, these data can be excluded from consideration in air quality planning if EPA concurs with the demonstration submitted by the flagging agency documenting that all procedural and technical requirements have been met.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 50.14(c)(3)(i), the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is soliciting comments on its final demonstrations of events that have caused elevated concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} during 2011 through 2013 across Arizona. The locations and specific dates in question are listed in the table below. ADEQ has decided to flag these episodes based on these analyses. A copy of the demonstrations is available for review beginning Friday, February 7, 2014 on the ADEQ website at www.azdeq.gov/enviro/air/plan/nee.html. Interested parties can submit written comments throughout the comment period which will end at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2014. Any comments received will be responded to and forwarded to EPA with the final demonstrations.

Area	Pollutant	Exceptional Event Date
Ajo	PM ₁₀	April 8, 2013
Douglas	PM ₁₀	April 8, 2013
Hayden Old Jail	PM ₁₀	April 8, 2013
Nogales	PM ₁₀	April 8-9, 2013
Greater Phoenix Area	PM ₁₀	April 8, 2013
Rillito	PM ₁₀	February 19, 2011 May 2, 2011 November 4, 2011 May 9, 2012 May 23, 2012 April 8-9, 2013 May 3, 2013 July 2, 2013
Tucson	PM ₁₀	April 8-9, 2013
Yuma	PM ₁₀	April 8, 2013
Greater Phoenix Area	PM _{2.5}	July 5, 2011 July 8, 2011 July 18, 2011 August 25, 2011 August 27, 2011 August 28, 2011 September 2, 2011 June 27, 2012

Written comments should be addressed, faxed, or e-mailed to:

Andra Juniel, Air Assessment Section, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 W. Washington Street, 3415-A, Phoenix, AZ 85007, PHONE: (602) 771-4417; FAX: (602) 771-2366, e-mail: juniel.andra@azdeq.gov.

In addition to being available on-line, copies of the analyses are available for review at the following locations:

Ajo area: Salazar-Ajo Branch Library, 15 W. Plaza St., #179, Ajo, AZ 85321, Attn: Linda Lam, (520) 387-6075, e-mail: linda.lam@pima.gov.

Douglas area: Douglas Public Library, 560 10th St., Douglas, AZ 85607, Attn: Ana Urquijo, (520) 417-7357, e-mail: ana.urquijo@douglasaz.gov.

Hayden area: Hayden Public Library, 520 Velasco Ave., Hayden, AZ 85135, Attn: Mary Lopez, (520) 356-7031, e-mail: mlopez@gcladaz.org.

Nogales area: Nogales-Rochlin Branch Library, 518 N. Grand Ave., Nogales, AZ 85621, Attn: Mirna Navarro, (520) 287-3343, e-mail: mnavarro@nogalesaz.gov.

Phoenix area: ADEQ Records Management Center, 1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007, Attn: Records Center, (602) 771-4380, e-mail: recordscenter@azdeq.gov.

Rillito area: Geasa-Marana Branch Library, 13370 N. Lon Adams Rd., Marana, AZ 85653, Attn: Vicki Duraine, (520) 594-5255, e-mail: vicki.duraine@pima.gov.

Tucson area: Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ 85701, Attn: Allan Dew, (520) 594-5500, e-mail: allan.dew@pima.gov.

Yuma area: Yuma County Library, 2951 S. 21st Dr., Yuma, AZ 85364, Attn: Andrew Zollman, (928) 373-6480, email: andrew.zollman@yumalibrary.org.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Alicia Pollard at (602) 771-4791 or at pollard.alicia@azdeq.gov. The TDD line for hearing impaired individuals is (602) 771-4829. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.